



## What is the Naropa Chaplaincy Project Doing this Semester?

- Supporting Naropa events with NCP presence and participation.
- Facilitating and supporting regular sittings and ceremonies on Naropa's three campuses.
- Offering individual spiritual care to members of the Naropa Community (call or email the Chaplaincy project and a chaplain will respond as quickly as possible).
- Maintaining the Transition Shrine which is used for personal and/or community rituals and ceremonies (located on Arapahoe Campus).
- Offering special dharma events on each campus.
- Mentoring students.
- Engaging in work with incarcerated prisoners.
- Creating a Master of Divinity students & alumni network to foster relationships and inspire continuity within the M.Div. program.

*All services offered by the Naropa Chaplaincy Project are offered free of charge to the entire Naropa community.*

## About the Naropa Chaplaincy Project

We offer an energetic team, ready to facilitate in individual and group celebration, and foster friendship and growth.

**Our mission is to provide ongoing spiritual care for the Naropa Family and outreach to the larger community.**

We are committed to offering support:

- During times of transition
- In creating and nourishing connection
- In holding a safe space for all

The Naropa Chaplaincy Project is an annual offering of the Master of Divinity program, developed and staffed by third year M.Div. students. It is supervised by Victoria Howard, Ph.D. and Roger Dorris, Ph.D. (Roger is on sabbatical during 2009-2010), and the team leader is Sue Vess. The Naropa Chaplaincy Project is supported by the Religious Studies Department, with special support from Vicky and Roger, as well as Judith Simmer-Brown, Giovannina Jobson, John Weber, and Jesse Masterson.



**Naropa University**

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## Naropa Chaplaincy Project



**Supporting awareness of spiritual & religious identity and diversity, and encouraging dialogue in the Naropa Community**



## Naropa Chaplains 2009-2010



Zubin Mistri

Zubin offers one-on-one spiritual care for members of the Naropa community. Zubin's work is informed largely by Hakomi—a way of exploring the question “Who am I?” that has its roots in Buddhism & Taoism and is also aligned with contemporary understandings in neuroscience and psychotherapy. This approach

to self-discovery uses mindfulness to touch into the beliefs, attitudes and feelings that usually exist below the level of everyday awareness, yet which typically inform much of our lives. Some of the qualities Zubin brings to this work are sensitivity, gentleness, and most of all respect for the already-present wholeness within each person. He also usually brings a backpack filled with pens, loose change, and other random stuff with him. Zubin is a graduate of, and teaching assistant in, the two-year training in Hakomi Therapy. In addition to his training as an interfaith chaplain at Naropa, Zubin is informed and inspired by the practices of meditation and improvisational dance.

Sue Vess

Sue, as a trained meditation instructor in the Shambhala Buddhist tradition, is devoted to supporting personal growth through spiritual practice. She has worked to bridge the gap between the spiritual and secular through teaching meditation in a variety of environments including community

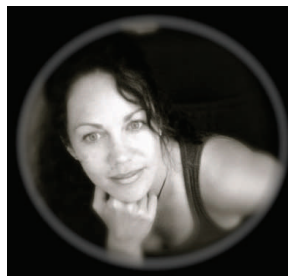


college, The Ethical Society and the laundromat. Currently Sue is interested in group dynamics within spiritual communities and how best to support persons who are curious about meditation but not committed to a spiritual path. In the belief that our environment has a direct effect on our mental well being, Sue is self employed as a ‘contemplative’ housekeeper. In addition to her coursework as a Naropa MDiv student, Sue's recent training includes: solitary and group retreats and Vajrayana Seminary. She also plans on completing Shambhala Teacher Training this fall and Authentic Leadership Certification in the spring.

Rebecca Keiki-Marie Morris

Rebecca Morris is a 3rd year M.Div. student working on her internship at the Denver VA Medical Center with special interest & focus on trauma and PTSD. With a strong Christian background, the attendance of traditional Buddhist seminary and years of studying Shamanic Medicine in Peru, she has a spectrum of tradition from which she draws upon, in her ministry. Rebecca offers meditation instruction, as well as, the power of touch combined with loving intention, as an important part of healing and spiritual council.

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Matt Lindshield

Matt is a state of Colorado licensed master's level social worker. He is passionate about social justice, inter-religious dialogue, contemplative practices, and foreign languages. He has several years experience providing counseling, mentoring, empathetic care, and other needed services to terminally-ill and grieving individuals, gang members, prisoners, ex-convicts, and at-risk youth. He is available for individual support and spiritual care for members of the Naropa and surrounding communities. His interest is in helping individuals deal with traumatic situations, life transitions, issues of spiritual/ personal identity, and diversity.



Katherine Walker

Katherine is in her third year of Naropa's divinity program. Brought to the field of chaplaincy by her work as an EMT, she values the importance and transformative quality of transitions. Her work is deeply informed and influenced by Shambhala teachings on basic goodness. This notion -- that despite the presence of confusion or chaos, there is inherent

wholeness and clarity in each being -- fuels her interest in supporting a person's emotional life as well as their relational and professional life. Katherine studies with Reggie Ray in the lineage of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche, and in the offering of spiritual care draws upon her Christian heritage as well as her training in the Buddhist tradition. Katherine offers caring presence and individual spiritual care to the Naropa community.

Carol Dougherty

Carol Dougherty is a Soto Zen Buddhist priest, ordained in January 2006 by Teah Strozer, in the lineage of Shunryu Suzuki-roshi. She will be participating in several of the chaplaincy projects this year, including developing relationships with the first and second year Masters of Divinity students, and offering drop-in services on one or more campuses.

Carol will also offer a series of short sittings with a brief talk and discussion. There will be one scheduled at each campus in both the fall and the spring. These will be interspersed with other events offered by the group, and the dates and locations will be announced as soon as they are confirmed.

